



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
45 L St., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>

DA 23-1080
Released: November 14, 2023

**DOMESTIC SECTION 214 APPLICATION FILED FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN
ASSETS OF GREAT LAKES COMMUNICATIONS CORP. D/B/A IGL TELECONNECT
BY MUTUAL TELEPHONE COMPANY OF SIOUX CENTER, IOWA
D/B/A PREMIER COMMUNICATIONS**

STREAMLINED PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

WC Docket No. 23-373

Comments Due: November 28, 2023
Reply Comment Due: December 5, 2023

By this Public Notice, the Wireline Competition Bureau seeks comment from interested parties on an application filed by Great Lakes Communication Corp. d/b/a IGL Teleconnect (GLCC) and Mutual Telephone Company of Sioux Center, Iowa d/b/a Premier Communications (Mutual) (GLCC and Mutual, together, Applicants), pursuant to section 214(a) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and sections 63.03-04 of the Commission's rules,¹ requesting consent for the acquisition of certain assets of GLCC by Mutual.²

GLCC, an Iowa corporation, provides service as a competitive local exchange carrier (LEC) to approximately 2,700 residential and business customers in the rural exchanges of Milford, Lake Park, and Spencer, Iowa. GLCC also provides Internet services in the counties of Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, and Osceola, Iowa.

Mutual, an Iowa corporation, provides service as a rural incumbent LEC to approximately 3,500 customers in the Sioux Center, Iowa exchange.³ Mutual wholly owns the following incumbent

¹ See 47 U.S.C. § 214(a); 47 CFR §§ 63.03-04.

² Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for the Acquisition of Certain Assets of Great Lakes Communications Corp. d/b/a IGL Teleconnect by Mutual Telephone Company of Sioux Center, Iowa d/b/a Premier Communications, WC Docket No. 23-373 (filed Oct. 31, 2023) (Application). Applicants also filed an application for the transfer of authorizations associated with international and wireless services. Any action on this domestic section 214 application is without prejudice to Commission action on other related, pending applications. Mutual is also an applicant in a section 214 application still pending with the Commission. See Joint Application of Royal Telephone Company and Mutual Telephone Company of Sioux Center, Iowa d/b/a Premier Communications, WC Docket No. 23-364 (refiled on Nov. 2, 2023).

³ Applicants state that no individual nor entity holds a 10% or greater interest in Mutual. The Board of Directors of Mutual are the following U.S. citizens: David Krahlung, Chad Feenstra, Mike McAlpine, James Mouw, Ryan Boone, Rob Bixenman, Stacie Dykstra, David Brommer, and Ted Hengeveld.

LEC and competitive LEC providers of local exchange service: Northern Iowa Telephone Company, an incumbent LEC providing service in the exchanges of Hinton, Matlock, Maurice, Sanborn, Little Rock, and Granville, Iowa; Webb-Dickens Telephone Corporation, an incumbent LEC providing service in the exchanges of Dickens and Webb, Iowa; Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa, an incumbent LEC providing service in the exchanges of Akron, Boyden, Doon, Hawarden Hull, Ireton, Rock Rapids, Rock Valley, and Sibley, Iowa, the exchange of North Rock Rapids, Minnesota, and the exchanges of West Akron and West Hawarden, South Dakota; and Premier Communications, Inc., a competitive LEC providing service in the exchanges of Akron, Ashton, Boyden, Doon, Hull, Ireton, Rock Valley, Rock Rapids, LeMars, Ocheyedon, Orange City, George, Merrill, Arnolds Park, Lake Park, Milford, Sheldon, and Spirit Lake, Iowa.

Pursuant to the terms of the proposed transaction, Mutual will acquire from GLCC fixed wireless and fiber-based broadband and telecommunications retail assets, property, rights, and interests (including all customer contracts and customer relationships) used to provide Internet, telephone, video, and other communications services in Great Lakes, Iowa.

Applicants request streamlined treatment of the proposed transaction under the Commission's rules and assert that a grant of the application would serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. We accept the application for filing under section 63.03(b)(2)(i) of the Commission's rules.⁴

Domestic Section 214 Application Filed for Acquisition of Certain Assets of Great Lakes Communications Corp. d/b/a IGL Teleconnect by Mutual Telephone Company of Sioux Center, Iowa d/b/a Premier Communications, WC Docket No. 23-373 (filed Oct. 31, 2023).

GENERAL INFORMATION

The transfer of control identified herein has been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing as a streamlined application. The Commission reserves the right to return any transfer application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules and policies. Pursuant to section 63.03(a) of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03(a), interested parties may file comments **on or before November 28, 2023**, and reply comments **on or before December 5, 2023**. Pursuant to section 63.52 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.52, commenters must serve a copy of comments on the Applicants no later than the above comment filing date. Unless otherwise notified by the Commission, the Applicants may transfer control on the 31st day after the date of this notice.

Pursuant to section 63.03 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR § 63.03, parties to this proceeding should file any documents using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS): <http://apps.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.

In addition, e-mail one copy of each pleading to each of the following:

- 1) Tracey Wilson, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, tracey.wilson@fcc.gov;
- 2) Gregory Kwan, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, Gregory.kwan@fcc.gov;
- 3) David Krech, Office of Internal Affairs, david.krech@fcc.gov; and

⁴ 47 CFR § 63.03(b)(2)(i).

4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, jim.bird@fcc.gov.

People with Disabilities: We ask that requests for accommodations be made as soon as possible in order to allow the agency to satisfy such requests whenever possible. Send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530.

The proceeding in this Notice shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b), 47 CFR § 1.1206(b). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

To allow the Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the application in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, petitioners and commenters should raise all issues in their initial filings. New issues may not be raised in responses or replies.⁵ A party or interested person seeking to raise a new issue after the pleading cycle has closed must show good cause why it was not possible for it to have raised the issue previously. Submissions after the pleading cycle has closed that seek to raise new issues based on new facts or newly discovered facts should be filed within 15 days after such facts are discovered. Absent such a showing of good cause, any issues not timely raised may be disregarded by the Commission.

For further information, please contact Gregory Kwan at (202) 418-1191.

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⁵ See 47 CFR § 1.45(c).